

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 03540 241422Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OPIC-03 STR-07 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 /041 W
-----101061 250114Z /73

R 241415Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7429
USDOC WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USMISSION USBERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 03540

USDOC FOR BEWT

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, GE
SUBJECT: GM SOUNDINGS IN GDR

1. IN A CALL AT THE EMBASSY MAY 16, GM DIRECTOR FOR SALES DEVELOPMENT/EASTERN EUROPE J. BODIE BRIEFED US ON PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO EAST BERLIN. BODIE, ACCOMPANIED BY EKKEHARD ROHDE, BOARD MEMBER OF ADAN OPEL, SAID HE HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL HELMUT IHLE OF TRANSPORTMASCHINEN WITH WHOM HE INTENDED TO EXPLORE BROAD POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION WITH THE GDR, INCLUDING POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION IN THE PRODUCTION OF A SUB-COMPACT AUTOMOBILE IN THE GDR BASED ON GM DESIGNS.

2. AWARE OF GDR-CZECHOSLOVAK PLANS TO PRODUCE JOINTLY A FRONT-WHEEL DRIVE COMPACT IN THE 1980'S, BODIE SAID THAT GM WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE WITH THE GDR POSSIBILITIES
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 03540 241422Z

FOR PRODUCING YET ANOTHER UP-TO-DATE AUTOMOBILE BASED ON GM DESIGNS. AS ENVISIONED BY GM, SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD INVOLVE GM DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS EXPORT OF COMPONENTS USED IN THE MANUFACTURING PROCESS TO THE GDR. GM WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT A PORTION OF GDR PRODUCTION IN COMPENSATION. BODIE MENTIONED THAT GM HAS EXPLORED A

SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

3. BODIE SAID THAT THE CURRENT SOUNDING DIFFERED FROM UNSUCCESSFUL GM DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GDR IN 1973-75, IN THAT GM COULD DISCUSS IN DETAIL THE DESIGN OF THE AUTOMOBILE TO BE PRODUCED, WHEREAS THE CAR UNDER DISCUSSION THREE YEARS EARLIER WAS NOT YET ON GM DRAWING BOARDS. IN ADDITION TO COOPERATION IN THE PRODUCTION OF AUTOMOBILES, GM ALSO WISHED TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES FOR SALES OF MARINE DIESEL ENGINES AND TRACTORS TO THE GDR. BOLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBRIEFINGS, VISITS, FOREIGN TRADE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BERLIN03540
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780220-0104
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780526/aaaaavji.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4071c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2594273
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GM SOUNDINGS IN GDR
TAGS: ETRD, GC, US, (BODIE, J)
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4071c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014